

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3565

E.O. 11652: GDS 12-31-80

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, NL

SUBJ: DRC MEETING JUNE 25, 1974: NETHERLANDS AND UK DRAFT
DECISIONS FOR "STUDY OF NATO STRATEGY IN THE 1980S"

REF: A. USNATO 3540, B. USNATO 3542, C. THE HAGUE 3157

1. DURING THE JUNE 25 DRC MEETING (REPORTED SEPTTEL) TO REVISE
SYG'S PO ON THE PROPOSED FUTURE NETHERLANDS FORCE STRUCTURE
IN PREPARATION FOR JUNE 27 DPC MEETING, NETHERLANDS REP
(CARSTEN) AND UK REP (MACDONALD) TABLED SEPARATE DRAFT DPC
DECISIONS ON THE SUBJECT OF "STUDY OF NATO STRATEGY IN THE
1980S."

TEXTS QUOTED BELOW.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF NETHERLANDS DRAFT DPC DECISION.

QUOTE.

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THE DPC IN PERMANENT SESSION,

CONSIDERING THAT IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT MINISTERS SHOULD
GIVE SERIOUS THOUGHT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE ON NATO'S DEFENCE

POSTURE IN THE EARLY 80'S;

CONSIDERING THAT THERE IS A NEED TO STRUCTURE AND DEPLOY NATO'S FORCES IN A WAY THAT WILL ENHANCE THEIR DETERRENT VALUE AND WARFIGHTING CAPABILITY FOR A RANGE OF PLAUSIBLE SCENARIOS, AS EXPRESSED BY SECRETARY OF DEFENCE SCHELSINGER IN THE MINISTERIAL DPC OF JUNE 14TH;

CONSIDERING THAT THE MOBILITY, STRICKING POWER AND STAYING POWER OF NATO'S ACTIVE FORCES SHOULD BE ENHANCED;

CONSIDERING THE NEED FOR A LARGER EFFORT TO OPTIMIZE THE MILITARY VALUE OF OUR COMMITTED RESOURCES THUS RENDERING OUR COMMON DEFENCE MORE COST-EFFECTIVE;

CONSIDERING THAT THE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE TO BE ISSUED IN THE SPRING OF 1975 WILL BE THE BASIS FOR ALLIED FORCE PLANNING UP TILL 1982;

CONCLUDES THAT A THOROUGH STUDY ON THE POSTURE OF NATO'S FORCES IN THE NEXT DECADE TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREED STRATEGY, IS DESIRABLE;

RESOLVES TO UNDERTAKE SUCH A STUDY, TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE FOR THE PERIOD 1977-1982. END QUOTE.

3. BEGIN TEXT OF UK DRAFT DPC DECISION.

QUOTE

THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE AGREED THAT, FOLLOWING THE SUGGESTION OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, THE PREPARATION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE FOR THE PERIOD 1977-82 SHOULD BE PUT IN HAND AT ONCE WITH A VIEW TO THE KEY ELEMENTS BEING SUBMITTED FOR MINISTERIAL APPROVAL AT THE DPC
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MEETING LATER THIS YEAR. THE AIM SHOULD BE TO MAKE THIS NEW MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE MORE DEFINITIVE AND PRECISE BOTH AS TO RESOURCES AND FUNCTION, SO AS TO ENSURE THE MOST EFFECTIVE DEFENCE POSTURE FOR THE ALLIANCE FOR THE 1980S. END QUOTE
RUMSFELD

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